

### **REMARKS**

Claim 6 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error.

Claim 7 has been amended as suggested by the examiner. It is believed that this amendment overcomes the examiner's objections.

New claims 16-19 have been newly added. Support may be found, e.g., on page 1, line 12, on page 2, line 18, on page 3, line 13, on page 9, line 3 and on page 10, lines 25-26. Further support for claim 17 may be found on page 9, line 5. Further support for claims 18 and 19 may be found on page 9, lines 22-26. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated Eden et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,688,845).

Claims 1-7 and 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated Lydzinski et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,280,515).

Claims 1 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as obvious over Eden et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,688,845).

Both the Eden and Lydzinski patents are as disclosing adhesive compositions comprising a converted derivatized starch. The examiner urges that the flow viscosity recited in applicants' claims are inherent in the compositions described in the Eden and Lydzinski disclosures. In addition, the articles of claims 12-15 are deemed by the examiner to be anticipated by Lydzinski. Applicants' disagree.

Applicants have discovered that an adhesive prepared from a derivatized converted starch

that has a flow viscosity of from about 7 to about 20 exhibits good adhesion, good wet tack, acceptable penetration blocking and good drying speed. These attributes makes the adhesive claimed by applicants particularly useful as a seam gum adhesive in the manufacture of envelopes using high speed machinery. None of the cited prior art teaches or even suggests conversion to the degree required by applicants. There is no teaching that would motivate the skilled artisan to convert the starch for a time sufficient to obtain the specific flow viscosity required in the practice of applicants' invention. Flow viscosity is critical to obtaining the proper balance of viscosity and percent solids in order to provide the desired processing properties on the converting equipment.

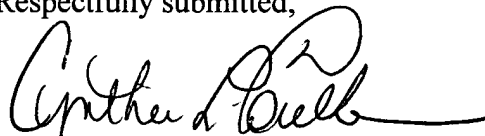
None of the cited documents describe or provide any disclosure that would motivate the skilled artisan to the use an adhesive comprising a converted starch derivative having a flow viscosity of from about 7 to about 20 as a seam gum in the manufacture of envelopes or envelopes comprising a seam gum adhesive comprising a converted starch derivative having a flow viscosity of from about 7 to about 20.

Applicants submit that the claimed invention represents an important and patentable contribution to the art. Early and favorable action is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cynthia L. Foulke", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Cynthia L. Foulke  
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